



# EXPUNGE COLORADO 2022-2023

CHANGING LIVES  
THROUGH  
RECORD SEALING  
SINCE 2018



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Community Partners @ 2022 Clinic



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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It's hard to believe that five years ago our founding team organized our first clinic. It's not hard to believe that not only are we still here but growing. Our tenacity grows after every record-sealing event we host. We simply can't stop doing this work because we know firsthand the barriers and benefits individuals with criminal records face. Record sealing immediately changes lives and we are still here for it.

Despite being new to non-profit development, our small but mighty team turned an annual, volunteer-led event into a functioning organization. Some proud moments from last year include the execution of our largest clinic to date and helping pass and implement the Clean Slate Act, which has the potential to automatically seal over one million eligible charges. Some other dreams that came true for us were developing an 8-week Record Sealing 101 curriculum for impacted individuals and receiving grants to help us with our mission of increasing access to record sealing.

We still have a lot to learn and like all worthy efforts, there are hard days and lessons. But we get smarter and stronger daily due to you all - our amazing partners, supporters, and volunteers. There are so many more dreams to come true for Expunge Colorado so please continue to support us in any way you can: Donate, volunteer, name drop, share social media, send funding suggestions, or sport a T-shirt. And keep your ear out for us because this small but mighty team is determined to Expunge Colorado!

Thank you all for helping change lives through record sealing,

Rosalie Flores  
Executive Director/Justice Hustler

*Rosalie Flores*





# MISSION STATEMENT

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**Expunge Colorado is a women/BIPOC-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, dedicated to increasing access to record sealing through education and pro-bono legal services.**

**We believe that sealing eligible criminal records from public view helps restore economic opportunities, justice, and dignity to people deserving of a fresh start.**

Expunge Colorado strives to provide meaningful change to individuals who have been negatively impacted by a criminal record. To do this, we offer events and education focused on record sealing.

Our annual sealing events provide pro bono legal services for the purposes of clearly determining eligibility for record sealing for attendees. If a constituent has eligible charges that can be sealed, they receive legal representation and financial assistance through all stages of their case(s).

To maximize impact, we also work to de-stigmatize having a criminal record through the creation of record-sealing education for the general public and by supporting legislation that automates record-sealing and expands eligibility.

***Record sealing: (noun)***  
***Is the process of sealing an adult criminal record from public view***



# OUR WORK OVER THE YEARS

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## Hosting Annual Record Sealing Clinics since 2018

- Since 2018, we have hosted five annual clinics free of charge for the community
- Reviewed over 500 records for eligibility | Sealed approximately 140 records from public view
- Recruit and train 100+ lawyers/law students/paralegals offering CLE credit for legal volunteers
- Worked with more than 25 organizations to provide wrap-around services at events
- Support the passage and implementation of Clean Slate legislation (SB21-99 Auto Record Sealing)

Oct  
27. 2018

Rosalie Flores leads team to execute the first, free record-sealing event in Denver in partnership with National Expungement Week (N.E.W.) at Servicios de la Raza.  
**Sealed 8 cases.**

Sep  
21. 2019

2nd free record-sealing event in partnership with N.E.W. at CrossPurpose.  
**Sealed 31 cases.**

Sep  
19. 2020

3rd annual record sealing (virtual) event 9/19-9/26. Expunge Colorado launches, fiscally sponsored by Nuvolution.  
**Sealed 33 cases.**

Oct  
02. 2021

4th annual record sealing (in-person) event at Second Chance Center.  
**Sealed 21 cases.**

Dec  
10. 2021

**Expunge Colorado receives official 501c3 nonprofit status** (effective date June 2020.)

Oct  
15. 2022

5th annual record sealing event at Cross Purpose. Largest clinic to date.  
**Sealed 45 cases.**



Team of volunteers, 2018



Team of volunteers, 2019



Melanie, Abbey, Rosalie, 2020

# 2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

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## Passage of SB-22-099 - Clean Slate Act

- Clean Slate Coalition member/strategic partner assisting in the passage and implementation of the Clean Slate Act
- Wrote specific legislation ensuring petitioners can file municipal petitions to seal in the municipality where the case occurred (as opposed to paying to create a new, separate case) (C.R.S. 24-72-708)
- Testified in Senate and House hearings in support of SB22-99
- Attended and spoke at Business Support Press Release
- Presented CLE's to Denver Bar Association - Young Lawyers Division and 1st Judicial District Bar Association on implementation
- 7th state in the country to pass automated Clean Slate legislation



## Organizational and Program Development

- Implemented by-laws and policies
- Onboarded contractors and accountant growing our foundation and development
- Provided 8-week Educational series, Record Sealing 101, in Partnership with Second Chance Center held in January-April 2023
- Supervised externship with University of Denver, Sturm College of Law
- Launched educational webinar to fundraise on Drug Convictions Eligibility on 5/2/23







# AWARDS AND GRANTS

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2022-2023 was an exciting year full of recognition and growth. Expunge Colorado received grants and awards that will help us develop a strong operational foundation and sustainable future.

**COLORADO CENTER OF  
LAW AND POLICY'S 2022  
COMMUNITY PARTNER OF  
THE YEAR**

**LATINAS GIVE 2022 GRANT  
AWARD RECIPIENT**

**BCB MASTERMIND'S  
2022 TRAILBLAZER  
AWARD FOR  
ADVOCACY AND  
LEADERSHIP**

**THE DENVER FOUNDATION  
2023 COMMUNITY GRANTS  
PROGRAM RECIPIENT**

**WANA BRANDS  
FOUNDATION  
2023 GRANT RECIPIENT**



# 2022 CLINIC HIGHLIGHTS

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Expunge Colorado's 5th Annual Record Sealing clinic on October 15th, 2022 was our most successful clinic to date!

## LARGEST CLINIC AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES FAIR TO DATE

- 108 Attendees
- 90+ Volunteers (40 legal, 55 general)
- 20 Community Partners involved

## OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

- Improved intake process
- Added paralegal team
- Worked with Checkr to identify individuals with eligible Denver marijuana convictions
- Provided CLE legal trainings
- Hosted two follow-up nights to complete cases in record time

## RECORD BREAKING STATS

- Most convictions ever sealed
- Highest percentage of attendees with successful record sealed (30%)
- Largest amount of monetary and in-kind donations received

## MARKETING & PRESS

- Captured 7 video testimonials from clinic attendees uploaded to YouTube channel and website
- Clinic featured in Rocky Mountain PBS article
- All Expunge Colorado volunteers received branded t-shirts







THE 5TH ANNUAL  
**COLORADO RECORD  
SEALING CLINIC**  
10/15/2022

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# SPONSORS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## 2022 Clinic Sponsors

- CheckR
- CrossPurpose
- GreenspoonMarder
- First Unitarian Society of Denver
- Wyld
- The Green Solution
- Wana Brands Foundation
- A. Moffitt Law
- Sexy Pizza
- Calling All Crows
- FlowerHire
- Social Cannabis

## 2022 Community Partners

- African Methodist Episcopal Church (Shorter AME)
- Healthier Colorado
- Second Chance Center
- Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado
- Remerge
- DHS
- First Unitarian Society of Denver
- Retail Odyssey
- Goodwill Employment Services
- Denver Metro Fair Housing Center
- Denver Public Library
- Honest Jobs
- Colorado Center for Law and Policy
- The NXT Chapter



# 2022 CLINIC: DATA, ANALYSIS AND INSIGHTS

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## Clinic Outcomes

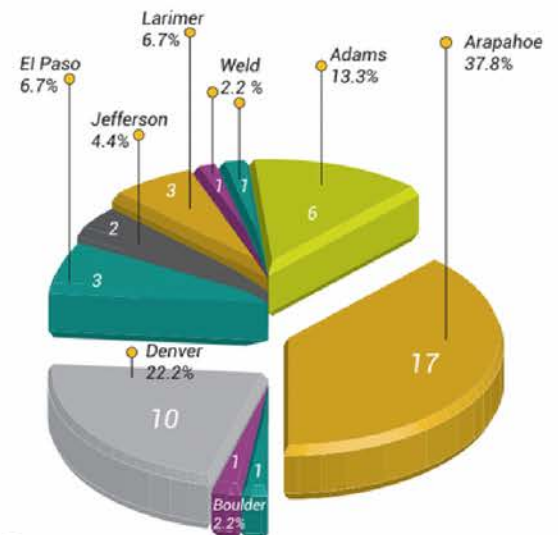
### Expunge Colorado sealed:

- A total of 45 records
- Nearly as many convictions and non-convictions
- Records in 10 Colorado counties

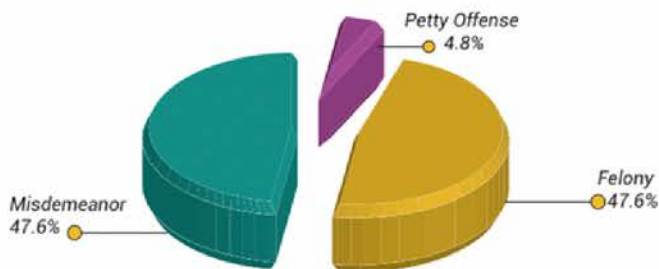
### Of the 45 records sealed:

- 21 are conviction records
- 24 are non-conviction records
- 13 people had multiple records sealed
- 32 individuals had records sealed
- Average Age of Petitioner: 44.6 years old
- Average Age of Case: 14.5 years old

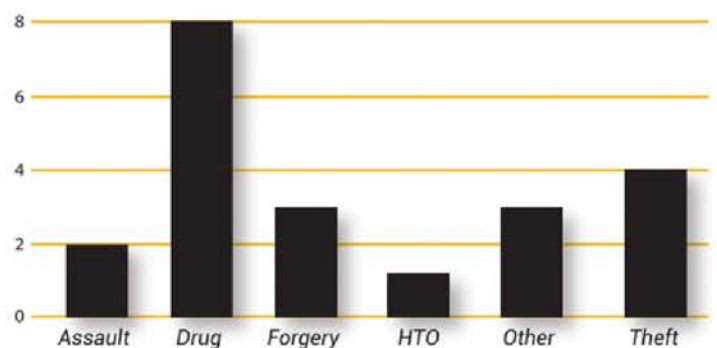
### Records Sealed By County



### Convictions Sealed: What Level



### Category of Conviction Sealed

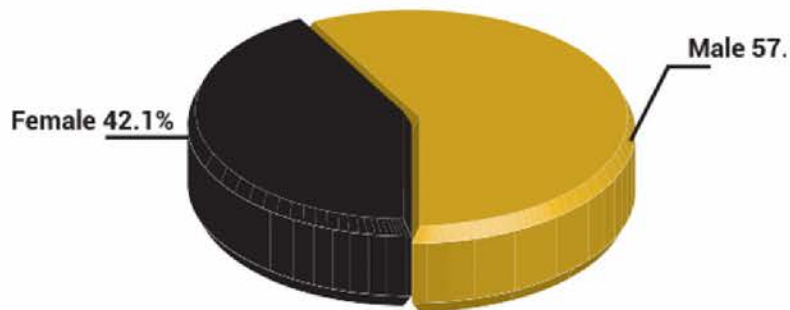




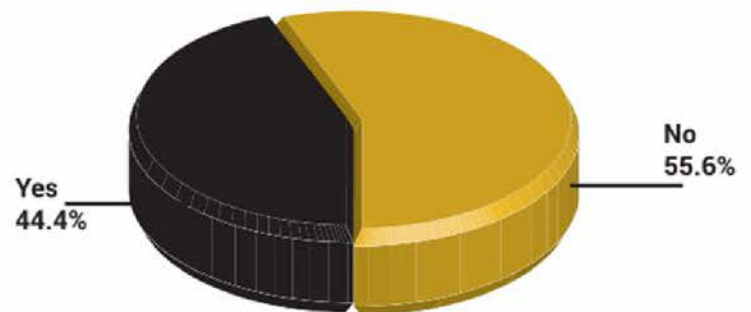
# CLINIC ATTENDEE DEMOGRAPHICS (SELF-IDENTIFIED)

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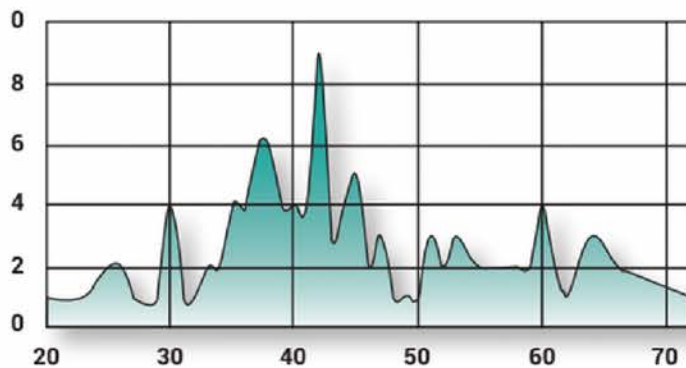
## Gender



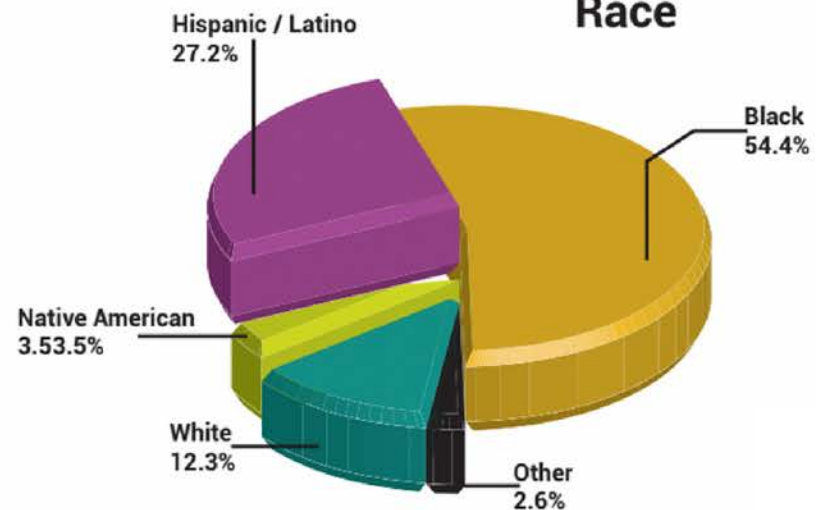
## SNAP Recipient



## Age



## Race



# 2022 CLINIC: ATTENDEE BENEFITS

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## All Attendees received the following at 2022 Clinic:

- Welcome Packet
- Review of record by a licensed attorney
- Form filed out by attorney explaining why they are not eligible or, if applicable, at what date in the future they will be eligible
- Municipal forms and instructions how to seal a municipal record, if applicable
- Referral to Turn Over the New Leaf for eligible municipal marijuana records
- Entered into Expunge Colorado's "Eligibility Tracker" if a case may be eligible in the future, for potential follow-up



## Improvements in our Intake Process:

**Every attendee met with a volunteer who gathered information needed to pull records. Upon intake, clinic attendees were provided a Welcome packet with the following:**

- Clinic process - FAQ on what to expect for the day
- About Us - Expunge Colorado Overview
- General eligibility information
- Offer for SNAP recipients to receive \$250 stipend from CrossPurpose
- Overview flier of Clean Slate law on automatic record sealing
- Re-entry community resources



## General Conviction Eligibility FAQ

*\*Distributed at the clinic*

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### General Conviction Eligibility Guide

Below are general guidelines on what convictions are eligible to be sealed. The conviction offense level should be identifiable on a criminal background report. However, determining if a conviction is eligible to be sealed can be a complex, long process. At today's clinic, volunteer attorneys are trained to help make that determination. We appreciate your patience with us. Thank you for being here.

List of Eligible Convictions By Offense Level	Waiting Time Before Eligible (start from end date of probation/parole supervision)
Civil Infraction/Petty Offense/ Drug Petty Offense	1 year
M2 / M3 / Drug Misdemeanor / DF4 for 18-18-403.5(2.5)	2 years
F4 / F5 / F6 / DF3 / DF4 / M1	3 years
All other eligible convictions	5 years

### Ineligible Convictions

*\*Not a Comprehensive List\**

- Class 1, 2, A and B traffic offenses
- DUI and DWAI
- F1 / F2 / F3 / DF1 level convictions
- Domestic violence crimes
- Unlawful sexual behavior crimes
- Crimes of Violence ("COV")
- Child Abuse
- Identity Theft
- Felony cruelty to animals
- Any federal or out of state cases

### Reasons for Record Sealing Ineligibility at the Clinic:

- Owes Restitution
- Active criminal case
- Level of charge not eligible
- Has not waiting the required amount of time
- New convictions on record that prevent sealing of prior ones



# 2022 CLINIC PICTURES

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THE 5TH ANNUAL  
**COLORADO RECORD  
SEALING CLINIC**  
10/15/2022





# POST-CLINIC IMPACT

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## Behind the Scenes Post-Clinic

**Follow up activities continue on for many months after the clinic. Attorney volunteers only determine eligibility for attendees. After the clinic, Expunge Colorado's Chief Legal Officer takes responsibility for the case by:**

- Supervising all eligibility determinations
- Hosting follow-up attorney volunteer night to review outstanding cases
- Referring paperwork to the paralegal team to complete forms
- Communicating with petitioners regarding eligibility
- Sending DocuSign links to petitioners with eligible cases
- Filing petitions to seal and proposed orders (x3) for every eligible case
- Following up with the court regarding delays
- Attended hearings and assisted petitioners in preparation for court
  - 2 in-person hearings
  - 5 virtual hearings
- Arguing interpretation of case law - question whether to determine drug offense by today's classification
- Once sealed, sending Order to Seal to CBI and paying required fees
- Sending Order to Seal to petitioner



# ISSUES IDENTIFIED

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Under the direction and supervision of Expunge Colorado's Chief Legal Officer, Abbey Moffitt, an analysis of cases was done alongside Colorado Center for Law and Policy's legal fellow to see if statutory requirements are being met and if cases are actually being sealed.

**Key Findings were determined after running a random sample of cases successfully sealed at the 2022 clinic:**

## **CBI, Colorado Bureau of Investigations**

- CBI continues to charge a \$20 processing fee to seal non-conviction cases when the Order to Seal comes from the defendant rather than the court. CBI was required to seal non-conviction records at no cost beginning August 2022 as noted in SB22-099.
- Arrest records that are sealed through CO Courts are not showing up as sealed in CBI. It should be cleared in both databases.

## **CO COURTS**

**This list is not comprehensive. We have identified 14 separate issues that prevent the successful sealing of cases.**

- Fees are being charged in non-conviction cases by the courts.
- One Judge denied a motion to seal because the defendant owed outstanding fees and costs, despite the law change.
- Courts setting hearings on 24-72-705 motions despite it not being authorized by law.
- Courts denying the ability to appear virtually.
- Older cases require having to call the clerk's office to have them open the case in the electronic system.
- Courts never issuing an Order, to any degree in a case, and having to file a request for ruling.
- Law enforcement agencies do not have an electronic mailing address to send the Order to, and neither does State Court Administrator's Office





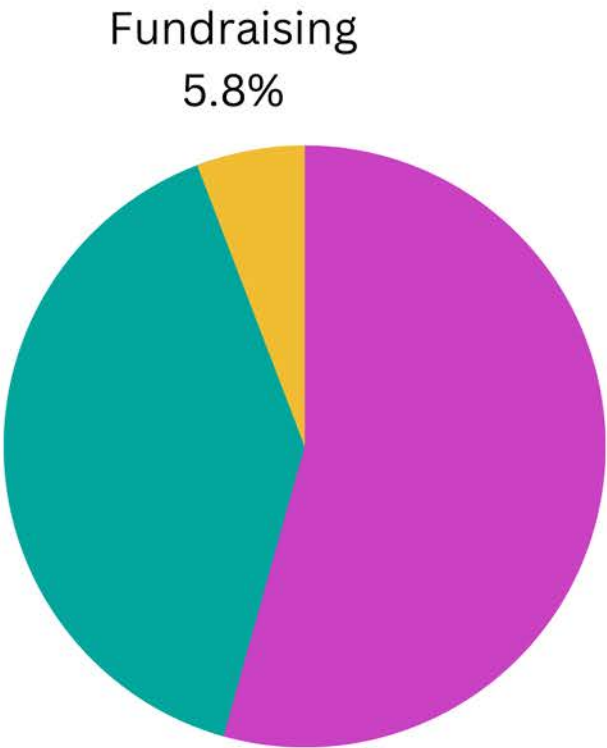
General Fundraising  
\$95,447



Programs (including the Clinic)  
\$90,099.00

Revenue Total  
7/1/22 - 6/30/23  
**\$185,546**

Management  
39.8%



Fundraising  
5.8%

Expenditures  
**\$101,961**

Programs  
54.3%





## 2023-2024 Goals

- Add a justice-impacted individual to our team
- Hire another criminal defense attorney to help sustain our mission and work
- Incorporate a CRM tool to better connect and manage community partners, sponsors, volunteers, and past petitioners
- Create pro-se (DIY) education series with resources to navigate the petition-based process
- Support Clean Slate implementation as active members of the CO Clean Slate Coalition
- Develop a statewide network of legal volunteers and community partners to support clinics state-wide
- Execute our 2023 6th Annual Record Sealing Clinic - Tentative Date: November 4th, 2023
- Pursue large grants from Foundations to support our operations
- Create educational videos to be shared via Website and Social Media about record sealing laws, processes
- Create a survey to better understand the needs of the justice-impacted community and provide education around those needs





# TESTIMONIALS FROM PAST PETITIONERS

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I can't begin to tell you what this means to me. I've been carrying that conviction on my shoulders for over 40 years. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for all the time and work you put into this. Best regards,

- M. Lewis

I would like to sincerely thank you for all you and your organization has done on my behalf.

You all seriously make a difference. Thank you. May you all be Blessed.

- D. Brown

Wow, this is crazy. Thank you so much for all the hard work.

I had actually given up on it and thought "its just my bed to lay in."

- Michael D.

I found out today that my FBI fingerprint background check was approved! Great news! It's been a long process and a learning process. In the end, God put me in a volunteer position He wanted me to be. I'm so grateful to you and the Expunge Colorado team! God Bless! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

- Tony K.



Visit us on YouTube  
@[ExpungeColorado](#)  
for more testimonials

# OUR FOUNDING TEAM AND BOARD MEMBERS



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**The Denver Foundation  
Clean Slate Initiative  
CheckR  
Wana Brands Foundation  
Wyld  
Wana Brands  
Calling All Crows  
GreenspoonMarder  
CrossPurpose  
First Unitarian Society of Denver  
National Expungement Works  
The Green Solution  
Social Cannabis  
Interfaith Alliance of Colorado  
Native Roots  
FlowerHire  
MoGo LLC  
Healthier Colorado  
Sexy Pizza  
VTV Technologies  
RZA Legal**

*Your  
donations  
help us  
change lives.*



# HOW TO SUPPORT OUR WORK & CONTACT US

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*Thank you so much for this Opportunity to  
Change my life. ☺*

## Donate, Sponsor, Volunteer, Spread the Word

To get involved, email us: [info@expungecolorado.org](mailto:info@expungecolorado.org)

Stay in touch: <https://expungecolorado.org/contact-us>

Donate directly to Expunge Colorado >>

<https://expungecolorado.org/donate>



## FOLLOW, LIKE, SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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[www.expungecolorado.org](http://www.expungecolorado.org)

*Thank you!*